



U.S. Immigration  
and Customs  
Enforcement

# News Release

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## **ICE REMOVES FUGITIVE TO GUATEMALA WANTED FOR EMBEZZLING MORE THAN \$5 MILLION FROM GUATEMALAN GOVERNMENT**

WASHINGTON, D.C. — U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) officials today announced that they have returned to Guatemala an individual wanted in that country for helping the former Guatemalan Director of the Tax and Customs Authority embezzle and launder more than \$5 million from the Guatemalan government.

Junior Abadio-Carrillo, age 32, who resided in Glendale, California prior to his arrest by ICE agents earlier this year, was removed from the United States by ICE Detention and Removal Operations officers via a Justice Prisoner Air Transportation System flight. He arrived in Guatemala City, Guatemala on Wednesday afternoon and was turned over to Guatemalan authorities.

“This is possible due to the fight against corruption that the Administration of President Berger is implementing and the close cooperation that exists between the Governments of Guatemala and the United States of America, in bringing before the law those persons who have any legal processes pending,” said the Guatemalan Ambassador to the United States, H.E. Guillermo Castillo.

ICE agents in California launched an investigation into Abadio-Carrillo after the ICE Attaché in Guatemala City received a request from Guatemalan officials to assist with this case and apprehend Abadio-Carrillo upon locating him in the United States.

Abadio-Carrillo faces charges for helping his father, Marco Tulio Abadio-Molina, the former Guatemalan Director of the Tax and Customs Authority, embezzle and launder more than \$5 million in funds from the Guatemalan government. Abadio-Carrillo fled the country, and entered the United States illegally in 2004. ICE agents arrested Abadio-Carrillo at his Glendale residence on October 18, 2005 without incident.

“We will not allow the United States to be a haven for those who have looted the treasuries of foreign governments,” said John Torres Acting Director of ICE’s Office of Detention and Removal. “This case demonstrates ICE’s commitment to track down international fugitives and help our foreign law enforcement partners bring them to justice.”

ICE will continue to work with Guatemalan authorities in all aspects of the investigation, which could potentially result in the seizure of bank accounts or other assets found to represent proceeds of illegal activities. ICE is a leading member of the Foreign Corruption Task Force, which represents the only task

force in the United States that specifically targets the proceeds of public corruption, bribery and embezzlement emanating from foreign nations.

ICE formally removed more than 300,000 aliens nationally in fiscal year 2004 and fiscal year 2005. More than half of those were criminal aliens.

# ICE #

*U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement was established in March 2003 as the largest investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security. ICE is comprised of four integrated divisions that form a 21st century law enforcement agency with broad responsibilities for a number of key homeland security priorities.*